



Photo by Sgt. Kimberly Trumbull

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide the small business community, Army, DoD and other government researchers and leadership additional insight into the Army SBIR program.

Army SBIR Vision

To be the Army's premier source of innovative technology solutions, providing direct access to America's high-tech small business research & development community, enabling our Soldiers deployed around the world.

Army SBIR Helpdesk

The Army SBIR Helpdesk answers program questions and provides assistance to small businesses and Government participants. Help Desk hours are Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm EST (except on Federal holidays). You may reach the help desk by email at army.sbir@us.army.mil or by calling (703) 399-2049.

SBIR Reauthorization

Following Reauthorization, Congress gave the Small Business Administration (SBA) an aggressive schedule for publishing a new Policy Directive to implement the numerous program changes in accordance with the legislative language. SBA worked with all SBIR stakeholders within the Federal Government and published a draft version of the Policy Directive for public comment on 6 August. In the meantime, the Army SBIR Program is waiting for definitive guidance from the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) for specific processes and timelines. Most of the changes will become effective with the 2013.1 Solicitation, which will be pre-released on 16 November 2012. Other changes will become effective on 1 January 2013. Please review our website for updates and specific direction.

Beyond Phase II Conference

More than 125 small businesses attended the 2012 SBIR Beyond Phase II Conference and Technology Showcase, held 10-13 September in Indianapolis, Indiana. The conference was hosted by the Department of Defense Office of Small Business Programs. Over 80 companies participated in the one-on-one sessions with Army representatives from the participating organizations, the Technical Assistance Advocates, and DoD Prime Contractors. This forum brings together scientists, engineers, and technology decision makers to discuss the transition of SBIR developed technologies into government and private sector commercial markets. Army SBIR had the opportunity to answer program questions while companies presented their technologies and explored how they might fit into Army Programs of Record.

The Army SBIR Program actively supports a number of conferences and outreach events throughout the year. The Army SBIR Program Management Team is able to meet and interact directly with small business representatives and provide guidance on SBIR issues as well as gather feedback on processes and new initiatives. The next opportunity is the Fall National SBIR Conference in Portland, Oregon on November 13-15, 2012 (www.oregonsbir.com).

The Army SBIR Program welcomes three new Program Coordinators:

Mr. Matt Raubinger, Program Coordinator at the PEO Combat Support & Combat Service Support (CS&CSS) at Detroit Arsenal in Warren, Michigan.

Ms. Kristin McKenna, Program Coordinator at Program Executive Office Soldier (PEO Soldier) at Fort Belvoir in Alexandria, VA.

Mr. Tom Brutofsky, Program Coordinator at PEO Command, Control, Communications Tactical (PEO C3T) at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Aberdeen, MD.



Photo by Lt. Col. Daniel F. Bohmer

12.3 SOLICITATION

Solicitation	26 Sept 2012
Closes	

13.1 SOLICITATION

Solicitation Pre	16 Nov —
-Release	16 Dec 2012
Solicitation	17 Dec 2012
Opens	

OUTREACH EVENT

2012 Annual	October 18,
UAHuntsville	2012
PTAC Business	
Matchmaker	
Oregon SBIR/	November
STTR National	13-15, 2012
Conference	

Have a Success Story?

We are continually seeking new “success stories” from small businesses. Successful small businesses and their technology are highlighted in our yearly Commercialization Brochure, website, and quarterly newsletter. If you are interested in submitting a story, please contact the SBIR Program Management Office at: army.sbir@us.army.mil

You can download and view our Commercialization Brochures at: <https://www.armysbir.army.mil/Commercialization/Default.aspx>

Featured Army SBIR Success Story

RE2, Inc.

www.resquared.com

U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center ForeRunner™ Unmanned Ground Vehicle (UGV) – High Speed Multipurpose Robot

The Army depends on Unmanned Ground Vehicles (UGV) to perform varied and complex functions in hostile environments to reduce Soldier exposure. These functions include surveillance, vehicle and facility inspections, improvised explosive devices (IED) detection and remediation, and explosive ordnance disposal (EOD). Current UGV platforms range from fast reconnaissance vehicles with simple and limited payloads to slower vehicles with less mobility, but complex manipulators. The Army is seeking to produce a UGV integrating the best capabilities of these two classes - a fast, agile UGV with a manipulator arm able to support a range of important functions. With this requirement in mind, RE2's **ForeRunner™** was developed under an Army SBIR Phase II project in collaboration with the Tank Automotive Research, Development, and Engineering Center (TARDEC).

The **ForeRunner™** combines the speed of a reconnaissance UGV with the physical inspection capabilities of a man-portable tracked robot. Its unique agility makes it capable of precision maneuvers beyond current capabilities and its intuitive control makes it easy for the most novice operator to become proficient controlling the UGV in a minimal amount of time. The **ForeRunner™** is an interoperable platform that can accept a variety of sensors and manipulator arms, via its Joint Architecture for Unmanned Systems (JAUS) interface, enabling the vehicle to rapidly adapt to a wide range of missions.

In June 2012, the **ForeRunner™** won the Dismounted Support Endurance Category at the Joint IED Defeat Organization (JIEDDO) Robotics Challenge, held at Fort Benning, Georgia and co-sponsored by TARDEC. The Endurance Challenge measured the speed and endurance of UGVs over a course meant to resemble the terrain of Afghanistan and Iraq. **ForeRunner™** recorded the fastest time of all entrants, averaging more than 13 MPH over the 6 mile course. This success has sparked much interest in this UGV's use by the military to deliver high-speed counter-IED capabilities to our Soldiers.



To learn more about other success stories in our newest Commercialization Brochure, please visit our website: <https://www.armysbir.army.mil/Commercialization/Default.aspx>